

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

***OTOCRYPTOPS GRACILIS BERKELEYENSIS*
 VERHOEFF, 1938, A SYNONYM OF *SCOLOPOCRYPTOPS*
GRACILIS WOOD, 1862 (CHILOPODA:
 SCOLOPENDROMORPHA: SCOLOPOCRYPTOPIDAE)¹**

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In my study of the North American scolopendromorph centipede fauna (Shelley 2002), I recognized six species in the genus *Scolopocryptops* Newport, 1844 (= *Otocryptops* Haase, 1887), four occurring east of the Central Plains and two west of the Rocky Mountains, primarily along the Pacific Coast. One of the latter, *S. gracilis* Wood, 1862, consists of three allopatric populations, the largest of which occupies an irregularly shaped area extending from northern California to an unknown distance in Baja California North with an eastward extension through the Mojave Desert into southwestern Utah and northwestern Arizona. I placed four species in synonymy under *S. gracilis* – *S. lauatipes* Wood, 1862; *S. californica* Humbert and Saussure, 1870; *Anethops occidentalis* Chamberlin, 1902; and *S. muudus* Chamberlin, 1911, the last two being new synonymies at that time. While recently reviewing a paper by K. W. Verhoeff (1938) on another matter, I discovered the description of *Otocryptops gracilis berkeleyensis* that I did not know existed. This account was based on a specimen from Berkeley, Alameda County, California, that was collected by A.E. Michelbacher in May of an unknown year and sent to Verhoeff, who thought it warranted taxonomic recognition. My conclusions about *S. gracilis* in 2002 were based upon examinations of some 700 individuals in 30 samples, of which 76 individuals and 33 samples were from counties bordering San Francisco Bay, and 17 individuals and 7 samples were from Berkeley itself. I found no evidence of clinal or geographic variation in *S. gracilis* and no reason to recognize subspecies or geographic races. I therefore formally place *O. g. berkeleyensis* in synonymy under *S. gracilis* (**syn. nov.**).

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LITERATURE CITED

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- Verhoeff, K. W.** 1938. Chilopoden-Studien. zur Kenntniss der Epimorphen. Zoologische Jahrbücher 71:339-388.

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